

[REDACTED]

22 May 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

FROM: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: Social Evening
In Guatemala City [REDACTED]

From 16 to 19 May, I was TDY [REDACTED] to attend an Arms Interdiction Meeting. Following the termination of the meeting, I was invited on 18 May [REDACTED] to attend a dinner party at her home. [REDACTED] her husband, is currently on contract with the Agency for International Development in El Salvador; putting in a computer system. [REDACTED] returns to Guatemala for the weekends as they consider El Salvador too dangerous a place to live.

[REDACTED]

Generally, the conversation was social although the following topics were of interest:

Approved for Release

NOV 1993

[REDACTED]

d. Attitude of Priests: [REDACTED] notice that based on his discussion with various persons (not defined) in El Salvador, he believes that killings were ordered by the former General of the Salvadoran Air Force, Gen. (R) Juan Rafael BUSTILLO Toledo. [REDACTED] noted that Bustillo is a head strong individual who, after losing out on becoming Minister of Defense in the Christian government, consistently sought ways to display his power, albeit at times in an unreasonable manner. For example, on Thanksgiving Day in 1989, he ordered the Air Force to bomb a hill located on the outskirts of San Salvador. Per estimates by the military, some USD 500,000 in armaments were expended in the hour long bombardment. Per [REDACTED] the bombardment took place during a TV news interview which the President and the Minister of Defense were giving at the time and both the President and the Minister of Defense were physically startled when the bombing started. Reportedly, they did not know anything about the bombing and assumed that the bombing was the result of the Air Force bombing an attacking FMLN force. This was not the case as there was no attack by the FMLN and only one body was found - that of a peasant caught in the wrong place. In the same manner, [REDACTED] believes that Bustillo acted to have the priests killed - to show everyone that he held the power of life and death over the enemies of the country. [REDACTED] does not believe that the General will ever be brought to justice, given Bustillo's friendship with Roberto D'Aubuisson. [REDACTED]